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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-03

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BELGRADE 0712

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FOR ANDREWS FROM WORTZEL

E O 11652: GDS
TAGS: OGEN
SUBJECT: OFFICIAL - INFORMAL

1. NOW THAT THE YUGOSLAV PRESS LEAK AND BELOVSKI HAVECONFIRMED THE TITO VISIT, WE ARE MOVING INTO THE PROVERBIAL HIGH GEAR TO PROVIDE WASHINGTON WITH THE GUIDANCE WE TRUST IT NEEDS.
I WANTED TO SHARE WITH YOU QUICKLY OUR THOUGHTS AND INTENTIONS.
BY MID-FEBRUARY, WE PLAN TO HAVE TO YOU CABLES COVERING THE FOLLOWING:

A. TITO PROFILE
B. OVERVIEW OF YUGOSLAVIA
C. US-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS
D. YUGOSLAVIA AND THE WORLD
E. YUGOSLAVIA AND HUMAN RIGHTS

WE SEE THESE AS PROVIDING AT LEAST GRIST FOR THE BRIEFING BOOKS, AND INTEND TO KEEP THEM REASONABLY SHORT AND GENERAL.

2. SOMEWHAT CLOSER TO THE VISIT, WE WILL TRY TO SUPPLY SOME MORE SPECIFIC STUFF INCLUDING, FOR EXAMPLE, A CHECKLIST
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OF YUGOSLAV POSITIONS ON SUCH ISSUES AS KOREA, MID-EAST, HORN OF AFRICA, SOUTHERN AFRICA, INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ISSUES. WE WILL ALSO TRY TO ASSESS, AND PASS ALONG OUR THOUGHTS ON, WHAT WE WANT AND WHAT THE YUGOSLAVS WANT FROM THE VISIT.

3. I HOPE THAT WE HERE ARE REALISTIC IN RECOGNIZING THAT

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THE WHITE HOUSE--AND EVEN THE DEPT--WILL NOT STOP WHATEVER
ELSE IT IS DOING IN ORDER TO CONCENTRATE ON THE VISIT. THUS
WE WILL TRY TO HELP FOCUS ATTENTION ON THOSE ITEMS WHICH
WE CAN ALL AGREE JUSTIFY THE VISIT AND WILL MAKE IT USEFUL.
NEEDLESS TO SAY, WE WILL VALUE ANY SUGGESTIONS YOU FELLOWS
MAY HAVE AS WE PREPARE THE MATERIAL TO SEND IN.

4. FSFA DEPUTY DIRECTOR CRNJAK TOLD MARK JANUARY 30 THAT
THERE WERE ONLY THREE BILATERAL ITEMS YUGOSLAVS NOW
CONSIDERED OF SUFFICIENT IMPORTANCE TO HAVE TITO RAISE WITH
CARTER IF THEY WERE NOT RESOLVED BEFORE THEN-- MILITARY
SALES, KRSKO AND SUPERGUARANTEES. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME
THAT THEY HAVE RAISED SUPERGUARANTEES AT THIS LEVEL. CRNJAK
STATED THAT WHILE AT FIRST GLANCE THIS ISSUE DID NOT SEEM
OF GREAT SIGNIFICANCE, THE MORE THEY LOOKED AT IT THE MORE
POLITICAL IT BECAME. ON DRSKO HE COMMENTED THAT THE
FOREIGN MINISTRY WAS PUSHING "OTHERS" AS HARD AS POSSIBLE
TO ACHIEVE A SOLUTION SO THAT TITO AND CARTER
WOULD NOT HAVE TO DISCUSS-- WHICH HE PERSONALLY THOUGHT WOULD
BE UNDESIRABLE. ON MILITARY SALES
CRNJAK SAID THERE WAS STILL SUBSTANTIAL CONCERN
HERE THAT WE WERE NOT WILLING TO CONSIDER THE SALE OF ANY
MODERN WEAPONS. HE NOTED THAT YUGOSLAVIA IS ONLY
INTERESTED IN EQUIPMENT OF A "DEFENSIVE" NATURE BUT THAT
WHATEVER IT BUYS MUST LAST FOR A DECADE OR MORE AND THREFORE
CANNOT BE OBSOLETE FROM THE VERY BEGINNING.
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5. HUMAN RIGHTS. WE PASSED THE ANNUAL HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT
ON YUGOSLAVIA TO CRNJAK ALSO ON JANUARY 30 AND MADE COMMENTS
PER STATE 023784. CRNJAK MADE NO COMMENT, MERELY STATING
THAT IT WOULD BE PASSED ON TO THOSE IN THE SECRETARIAT WHO
DEAL WITH HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS--WHICH SEEMED TO MEAN THE
LAWYERS. ON REVIEWING THE TEXT ONCE MORE WE IN THE EMBASSY
HAVE THREE QUIBBLES. FIRSTT, USING WEEKEND HOUSES AS AN
EXAMPLE OF PRIVILEGE FOR THE MINORITY SEEMS TO
US MISLEADING. IF THIS IS MEANT TO IMPLY THAT PARTY TYPES
OR OTHERS WITH SPECIAL POSITIONS SOMEHOW GET WEEKEND HOUSES
THROUGH INFLUENCE THEN THE STATEMENT APPLIES MORE TO THE
SOVIET UNION THAN TO YUGOSLAVIA. ANYBODY CAN BUY OR BUILD
A WEEKEND HOUSE HERE WHO HAS THE MONEY, E.G., PLENTY OF
PRIVATE LAWYERS AND OTHER NON-PARTY MEMBERS HAVE THEM.
SECOND, WE ARE NOT AT ALL CERTAIN THAT THE OVERALL INCIDENCE
OF POLITICAL ARRESTS IS DOWN FROM 1974. THE LATEST
FIGURE FOR POLITICAL CONVICTIONS THAT WE SAW WAS FOR 1976
AND REMAINED OVER 1,000 WHICH IS THE SAME AS 1974. THIRD,
NOT "ALL" OF THE MOST HIGHLY PUBLICIZED POLITICAL
PRISONERS WERE RELEASED IN THE NOVEMBER AMNESTY.
FOR EXAMPLE, DAPCEVIC IS STILL IN THE SLAMMER.

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6. PALMER HOUSING. PLEASE TELL DSRA TO RESERVE TWO-
BEDROOM AT COLUMBIA PLAZA FROM MARCH 13 TO MAY 12. NO MONTHLY
RATES? PLEASE ASK PETER SWIERS TO CHECK WHETHER FURNISHED
EFFICIENCY WITH KITCHENETTE AT GEORGETOWN MANOR IS EQUIVALENT
IN COST ON MONTHLY BASIS AND IF SO TO RESERVE THERE INSTEAD.
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